TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



AGRICULTURE 3

February 1, 2020

SUMMARY OF BILL: Authorizes the Department of Transportation (TDOT) to establish a historic road program to designate "historic roads." Defines historic roads as roads that have historical or cultural significance or are historically important on a local, regional, or state level, and are owned by this state or a political subdivision of the state. Authorizes the TDOT Commissioner or a county legislative body to establish weight limits on a historic road without conducting an engineering study.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

NOT SIGNIFICANT

Assumptions:

- This legislation does not direct TDOT or a local government to install signage on a designated historic road; therefore, there will be no increase in state expenditures.
- Pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 55-7-205(a)(8), the TDOT Commissioner has the authority to reduce the maximum gross weight of freight motor vehicles operating over lateral highways and secondary roads where, through weakness of structure in either the surface of or the bridges over the lateral highways or secondary roads, the maximum loads provided by law, in the opinion of the commissioner, injure or damage the roads or bridges. The county legislative body has the same authority as to county roads; provided, however, that any reduction below the weight limits set by the Commissioner shall require a two-thirds vote and is based upon the same criteria as used by the Commissioner.
- Given the above restrictions, authorizing the Commissioner or a county legislative body to establish weight limits on a historic road without conducting an engineering study will not result in an impact to state or local expenditures.
- Any increase in workload to TDOT as a result of this legislation can be accomplished with existing personnel and resources.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Krista Lee Carsner, Executive Director

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